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Ripe and Unripe.

the jury to which his case will be submitted in November:

"The great tribunal of the American people may be implicitly relied on to decide all questions with unerring and exact justice when all the evidence is in and deliberation had, and those who would hold place as leaders of the people must be so thoroughly American, so discreet, so farsighted, and so sure of the pulse of the people as to discern the course publie opinion will take.

"Though the instant judgment of the people may be often at fault, the ripe and final decision is always for the right. And the part of leadership is to know the right and to honestly, patriotically, fearlessly and zealously advocate it." So the jurymen are trustworthy, in

the long run, but often impulsive, hasty and apt to go off at halfcock. From PHILIP drunk to ditto sober.

In 1900 this jury gave a decision in favor of "imperialism." Judge PARKER secems to regard that decision as unripe and not final.

"Protection is robbery." There is another question as to which the ripe opinion of the jury is to be asked again.

Judge PARKER's rejection of the instant judgment of the people, his appeal to their "ripe and final decision," seems world. Nothing is settled until it is settled right," that is, in accordance with BEYAN. He is always looking forward to a later and riper decision "for the right.

It is unpleasant for a candidate to reel that the people are at fault and haven't ripened up to him.

And This in West Virginia!

The Washington correspondent of the Newark Daily News has been in West Virginia talking with some of the editors of the rural Democratic newspapers of that State. We quote the remarks of one journalist as a fine example of humor and pathos combined:

" Dr. J. H. WEYMOUTH, editor of the Randolph County Emerprise, one of the most influential Demoeratic weeklies of West Virginia, expressed to me, for himself as well as on behalf of his contemporary Democratic editors in the State, his utter dissetlefaction with the methods of the national Demo-

"'The country newspapers of West Virginia,' said Dr. WEIMOUTH, 'have always received some financial consideration from the national committee in Presidential campaigns. In the two Bryan camspigns we knew the national committee did not have any money, but every Democratic paper of the State felt like helping the ticket out and giving It our heartlest support. But now that the Democratic national committee has AUGUST BELMONT and other Wall Street magnates back of it, there is every reason why Democratic editors of country newspapers in West Virginia should get a check every month, but not a single editor in the Stateand I have visited fifty-two of the fifty-five counties has received a cent from our national com-

"Turning to his desk, Dr. WEYMOUTH picked up a large envelope he had just received. In it was a circular letter from THOMAS TAGGART, chairman of the national Democratic committee, recommending the articles written by a press syndicate. Accompanying this were some articles about 'Parker Constitution Clubs,' which the syndicate or press bureau of the national committee asked to have printed.

"They will not get any of their stuff printed in my paper,' said Dr. WEYMOUTH, 'and I hardly k they will succeed in getting many West Virginis editors to print their matter. It is vary plain to me that the national committee does not under-

Does Mr. PARKER know of the miserable state of affairs in West Virginia? Doss Mr. BELMONT know of it? Is the Hon. HENBY CASSAWAY DAVIS aware that almost in the shadow of his own comfortable home able and incorruptible Democratic editors, hungry for bread in the shape of the customary monthly check, are receiving-from the hands of THOMAS TAGGART naught but petrified advice to form Parker Constitution

Is it possible that the suspicion is well founded that TAGGART has diverted the entire literary fund to his own Indianapolis Sentinel?

Is a Sixteenth Amendment Needed?

Mr. CHARLES W. THOMAS, a lawyer and indifferent. and a well known Republican, has set forth in the current number of the North American Review his reasons for believthe Federal Constitution, and also the second and third sections of the Fourteenth Amendment, should be abrogated. He would substitute a Sixteenth Amendment providing that Representatives in Congress shall be apportioned among the several States according to the number of the male inhabitants of the age of twenty-one years and over, being citizens of the United States, who are permitted by law in the States respectively to vote for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States and for Representatives in Congress. That is to say, instead of imposing a penalty for narrowing the franchise, he would offer an incentive to extending it.

The grounds on which the change is advocated are worth considering. It is true, as Mr. THOMAS says, that the Fifteenth Amendment is virtually a dead letter. It was so formulated that it could be legally abrogated by any State willing to enact the legislation needed for the purpose. It has been so abrogated in a number of States. It serves October; but the Democrats can't help 4. First, last and most of all the sin-

no longer any useful end. On the other hand, no serious attempt has been made to enforce the penalty prescribed by the econd section of the Fourteenth Amendment for the denial of the suffrage, on any ground whatever, to any of the adult male citizens of a State being citi-

zens of the United States. Mr. Thomas, although a Republican, regards the second section of the Fourteenth Amendment as open to criticism, both in substance and in form. It tacitly assumes, he says, that all male citizens of the United States are entitled to vote at all elections and provides the penalty for any abridgment of that right; whereas it ought to have assumed that the right to vote was one which might or might not be given to such citizens by each State to the extent that it saw fit to prescribe, and the penalty ought to have been made to depend upon the extent to which the several States should see fit to exercise their power to limit the suffrage of those citizens in national elections. It is further pointed out that the second section of the Fourteenth Amendment is an unwise punitive pro-This is Judge PARKER'S description of vision, enacted not for any good purpose affecting the whole people of the United States, but for the sole purpose of punishing the people of certain States for refusing to surrender their local governments to virtual anarchy. It constitutes a reversal of the well established relation which had previously existed between the Federal and State governments, and is an unjustifiable departure from ancient methods.

Attention is also directed to the fact that the section is not, and cannot be, uniform in its operation, and is therefore unjust. The primary basis of representation fixed by the Fourteenth Amendment is the number of inhabitants, but the penalty for denying the right to vote is based upon the proportion which the number disfranchised bears, not to the number of the inhabitants, but to the number of male citizens twenty-one years of age. Yet it is notorious that the number of adult male citizens in any one State, say Montana, does not, by any means, bear the same mathematical relation to the number of its inhabitants that the number of such citizens in another State, say like an echo of Mr. BRYAN's hopeless | Massachusetts, bears to the inhabitants reiteration of Bryanism against the of that State. Another objection to the second section of the Fourteenth Amendment is noted, namely, the extreme difficulty, if not impracticability, of enforcing it. Suppose, for instance, that a State should deny to any citizen the right to vote because he failed to pay a poll tax. It is obvious that the number of such delinquents would not in any two years bear the same proportion to the number of those who paid the tax. Every ten years, however, Congress would be called upon, in the discharge of its legislative duties, to fix the representation of the several States in Congress for the succeeding ten years. What THOMAS, as a criterion, when it came to consider the denial of the right to vote based on non-payment of a poll tax? Other withholdings of the suffrage for other reasons it would tax the ingenuity of legislators to punish in a fair and undiscriminating way.

But, it may be said, why not let things remain as they are? Because, answers expect that the Fourteenth Amendment. unenforced. Nobody denies that cer- Paraguay's two-thirds of 1 per cent. tain States have representation in Connation, will ultimately, in Mr. Thomas's opinion, demand and receive a just and British India, about 2 per cent. equitable adjustment of representation to the distribution of the suffrage. He is also convinced that far sighted men at compromise as is here suggested, rather councils a weight to which they are no longer entitled.

Mr. THOMAS'S proposal is likely to excite much interest in the Southern States, because the author, while a Republican, does not wish to see the Federal Government interfere in purely local elections, and evidently regards the Fifteenth Amendment as a monument of legislative incapacity and the second section of the Fourteenth Amendment as objectionable both in substance

Victorious Apathy. were chuckling at the small audiences which even the most distinguished cammont. No crowds, no hurrah, boys; no enthusiasm or perspiration. Evidently dorf and a free trip to Esopus? the Vermont Republicans were apathetic

These Vermonters were as calm as a cucumber. They didn't tear their hair, neglect their work or leave the reaper ing that the Fifteenth Amendment of and binder for the spellbinder, but they "rolled up" a good fat plurality that has | mind: filled the Democrats with dismay and

gooseflesh. Now the Democrats are trying to account for the demoralization of their campaign and the continuing strength do or say this and that. This issue or that must be "forced to the front." In the West they are even calling on speak, as if the sight or sound of him

would have a magical effect. Democrats will admit privately that the outlook for Democratic success is pretty blue. Not in Vermont alone the voters seem to have "made up their and sonority the opinions and the issues mind." Indeed, the general result of that are enclosed in him. The editor the election is largely discounted, save pilgrims gave him a doubtless welcome that in this State, where the Republicans opportunity of strong and lucid speech. have been carrying the Old Man of Newburg, a profound uncertainty still hard to forget: enwraps the campaign. Notably in New Jersey, Connecticut, Indiana, Wisconsin, West Virginia and Maryland party, through its platform and candidates, conthere will be heat and fight enough in | fidently appeals to the people for indersement."

being dispirited. They feel that they are playing an uphill game. The country is fairly prosperous.

What reason is there for a change of Administration? Supposing there is some considerable reason for a change, would the election of PARKER and DAVIS be a change for the better? Whatever personal enthusiasm there is in the canvass is on the Republican side. Judge PARKER is an excellent person, but he has failed to "take"; and his venerable associate is a joke. The real zeal and flame of the Democratic party are among the Bryanites and Hearstites, the radical side. Can a party unsafe and insane in 1896 and 1900 now be trusted to behave in a sane and safe manner? What real coherence is there in the reorganized Democracy? What one vital issue do all Democrats embrace? Some of them are "imperialists" and some "anti-imperialists." Some are protectionists and some free traders or tariff for revenue men. Some are gold men, some unrepentant silver men. Take the whole collection, by and large, and does it appeal to business and business men as likely to give the country better administration than it now has?

Considerations like these come to the average Republican and independent voters. Next month some of them will like to hear Republican speakers, but for pleasure, not conviction. As in Vermont, their minds are made up.

The Democrats can t agree as to what their great salient political or economic "paramount" issue is. The issue of personality, the comparative personal attraction or repulsion of Judge PARKER and Mr. Roosevelt, has already dashed Democratic hopes. Judge PARKER has been unveiled, and the country has not been deeply affected thereby. The delirious prophecies of Col. HENRY WATTERSON and other Democratic supernumeraries, the solemn warnings of the Democrats of the Constitution Club, are heard with the same languor by the public. It is "apathetic" because it regards Democratic defeat as a foregone con-

Trade Waves.

Our share in the trade of foreign nations is susceptible of illustration by a series of wave lines whose force lessens as the distance from our borders increases. The rule holds good with only a few comparatively insignificant variations.

On our north line lies Canada, to whom we sell 60 per cent. of all her imports. Northeastward, Newfoundland comes to us for about 37 per cent. of her needs. Southward, our immediate neighbor is Mexico. She obtains from our market nearly 60 per cent. of her importations. Southeastward are Cuba, buying nearly 40 per cent.; Hayti, taking a similar percentage; Santo Domingo, taking 55 per cent : and the British West Indies, coming for about one-third of their imports. prior year would it take, asks Mr. In the next trade wave to the southward there lie the States of Central America, giving us collectively about 27 per cent. of their trade. Colombia and Venezuela give us each about one-third of their business.

Following down the west coast, the rule holds good with Ecuador at 20 per cent.; Peru, 12 per cent., and Chile, 8 per cent. Along the eastern coast Brazil Mr. Thomas, no reasonable person can gives us 9 per cent.; the Argentine, 10 per cent., and Uruguay, 6 per cent.; so long as it stands upon the statute | while the interior countries are reprebook, will be permitted to be forever sented by Bolivia's 11/2 per cent. and

Looking eastward, England gives us gress and electoral votes based vir- 20 per cent. of her trade; Germany, 13 tually upon vast numbers of voters who per cent.; Belgium, 10 per cent.; Spain, have been disfranchised in defiance of 9 per cent.; France, 8 per cent.; Italy the Fourteenth Amendment. The peo- 9 per cent.; and Russia, 2 per cent. Westple of other States, against whom such | ward, Japan gives us 16 per cent.; China a state of things operates as a discrimi- 11 per cent.; the Philippines, 12 per cent.; Australasia, about 10 per cent., and

The regularity of all this is more than a curious coincidence. It is probable that it is a correct indication of American the South, desirous of retaining the sym- trade conditions. We are not yet trade pathy with which their efforts to solve hunters in an active and energetic way, the race problem are and should be fol- and proximity to these markets appears lowed at the North, will accept some such to be a strong factor in the trade which comes to us almost without solicitation. than persist in claiming in the national | Facility of transportation is evidently likewise a factor.

The situation is at least suggestive of large trade opportunities by a little extension of commercial activity which would increase the force and volume of these wave lines.

A Trip That Did Not Fail.

Some atrabilious Democratic snarlers want to know of what earthly use to Judge PARKER and his political fortunes has been the Oriental journey of a few hundred Occidental Democratic editors. To what purpose was all this waste of good Democratic money? Is the Con-A few days ago our Democratic friends stitution to be saved and the wreck of republican institutions to be averted by giving a handful of country editors paign orators were able to collect in Ver- and a big "bunch" of headquarters "hangers on" a "free blow" at the Wal-

So foolishly ask the snarlers, snarling because they were not invited. The grand editorial excursion was a triumph for the master minds that planned it. It was justified by four clear reasons that must occur to every reasonable

1. If Judge PARKER will not go to the editors the editors must go to Judge PARKER.

2. A visit to the Hoffman House must convince the most doubting and Bryanof the Republicans. Judge PARKER must esque editor that representative Bryanites, like MARTIN, WALSH and JOHNSON, feed on milk and honey, the fat of the land and of jobs. The Money Power is the Judge to come and show himself and amiable and loves to sign checks for the benefit of faithful old soldiers of the Peerless

3. Complaint has been made by too vehement "able editors" that Judge PARKER has not uttered with more vigor Judge PARKER's ringing words will be

" I shall not take up your time, however, with any reference to the great issues upon which our

gular good reasons for this trip of think- THE PRESENT STATE OF THE ers was the illustration and vindication which it gave of this piece of more than Solomonic wisdom in the St. Louis plat-

form: "We believe that one of the best methods of procuring economy and honesty in the public service is to have public officials, from the occupant of the White House down to the lowest of them, return as nearly as may be to Jeffersonian sim plicity of living."

Back to Spartan black broth, to the pulse and water, of the legendary JEF-FERSON! The Democratic national committee would show the way. The Democratic editors should feed as "the fathers' used to feed. The Democratic banquet should be a return to the high living and plain drinking of the early days.

It was. It was reasonably Jeffersonian and simple, at nine dollars a plate. Mr. JEFFERSON would have had more Madeira, probably; but all things considered the spread was a credit to the spreaders and an agreeable return to Jeffersonian simplicity. Considering the difference in the value of money, the increased price of wines, game, plate, and so on, \$25 a plate would be more like Jeffersonian simplicity than nine. Still, nine was a step in the right direction.

In putting to scorn the Bryan dollar dinners, in approaching, for the first time, a genuine Jeffersonian principle, the projectors of the editors' banquet have done well. And in consenting to play the fiddle, albeit second fiddle, at it will be several years before this becomes headquarters the Hon. THOMAS TAG-GART is reviving another Jeffersonian accomplishment.

The editorial trip is said to have cost \$10,000. Regarded only as a plea for Jeffersonian simplicity it was worth at least a million.

As matters have been managed the [Democratic party will come out of the fight very much as it went into it.—The New York Times.

As matters were managed at St. Louis and are now managed at Esopus the Democracy will come out of the campaign not only with Mr. ROOSEVELT elected but with BRYAN restored to dominance in the party by the stupidity and fatuity of a Demo cratic campaign managed by his enemies.

The Democratic party is not a machine.—Mr. A truth that may be confirmed by the most casual inspection of the headquarters.

PARKER IN NEW ENGLAND.

Massachusetts Democrat's Prediction. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The result of the election in Vermont surprises obody in New England, because the feeling has been general here for a month that Judge Parker will be the worst beaten candidate since Horace Greeley. I have made many nquiries among friends as to how they think the election will go, and I have yet to find a man who thinks Parker has a ghost of a chance, am a Democrat and I shall vote for him but I shall have to hold my nose while doing it-not because of Parker, but because of the nest of traitors vouching for him.

Every time a real Democrat hears that Grover Cleveland says that Parker is "safe and sane," or when he hears that Bourke Cockran is supporting him, or when he hears that Belmont is paying the freight, he begins to wonder whether he cannot better protes gainst these "leaders" by voting for Watson

Another thing which will hurt Parker in New England is the fact that the men who turned the New England delegations over to him in the convention got these delegations by the most high handed "strong arm" methods. Outside of Boston, where the little men of the machine are always with the boodle, New England Democracy was for Hearst. Not that they cared particularly for Hearst, but he was the nearest to their ideas. Take this Congress district as an instance of the whole. The caucuses pledged men discharged from employment and other means, the two delegates were sent to St. Louis for Olney—which meant Cleveland, if the two years of plotting could be brought

to a successful issue. a word, the visible Democratic party of New England is made up of "leaders" who imagine they are fooling the voters. When the election comes off they will find that the real Democrats have become free lances, as the gold Democrats were four and eight year and that they are going to do a little 'saving of the national honor" themselves.

Further From the Old Bay State. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Think

ng perhaps you would like to hear a little of the political situation about here, I will write my observations. Apathy is here, and why? Most every one is of the same opinion. They are satisfied with the present conditions, and do not want

change. Parker defeat is in the air. There are a large number of Bryanite about here, and they want nothing of Parker. Look for an old-time majority in this State J. H. C. ALLEN. for Roosevelt. WARFFIELD, Mass., Sept. 0.

The Politics of the Subway Dispute To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: THE SUN's catholicity is well shown in its message of conratulation to the victorious underground railroad men. Among the many improvements in human affairs which it is its pleasure to chronicle, none shows more advance than present over past atti tudes of the politician to the workingman. The old, "Howdy, howdy, howdy do? How's your wife and how're you?" won't do for these days.

something more than a "fit" for his paim from his solicitous political friend and guide, and it must be delivered in advance.
Political field marshals like Belmont and Odell can take care of themselves after election; the private in the ranks does well to secure his 50 cents a day from a great public undertaking like the

"The horny hand of the workingman" must get

subway before it is handed over to his superiors. Taggart's Adjective. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIF: In the morn

ing SUN, first page, third column, second para-graph, appears "Cheerful Tom Taggart". For the sake of alliteration, if not because of the Ver-mont election, why not change it to read: "Tearful A. A. CHAMBERS. Tom Taggart---"? Winter Reserts. (Gen. Kuropatkin loguitur.)

Mukden, I've been informed, Is quite pleasant. But, if warmed By the shrapnel of some little folk I know, It may prove a trifle hot, So quite possible it's not The wisest choice of places I might go. In a sweetly rural way, Harbin, so people say, Is as charming and secluded as the best;

But-those guns throw pretty far,

So I'd better take a car

And ride a little further to the west Lake Balkal, as I'm advised, But-well, a man might slip If a quick and hurried trip He was forced to make by very urgent rea Irkutsk, so I've been told,

With its parties and its musicales and balls. But—I've lived at such a pace, The unthinking term it race, That nowadays all strenuousness palls. Yes, when a man's along in years Wanderlust oft disappears; In other words, he doesn't care to roam. So I think I'll take the track

Fairly sparkles when its cold

To St. Petersburg straight back,

CAPE TO CAIRO LINE.

A recent number of South Africa presents an interesting diagram of the present state of that Cape to Cairo railway which only a few years ago was thought by many to be an absurd scheme, too visionary for serious consideration. Forty-eight per cent. of the line is already constructed and in operation.

Trains now run from the Mediterranean to Assuan, 600 miles up the Nile. Thence a waterway is open for 220 miles, to Wady Halfa. From that point trains run 560 miles southward to Khartum, the present ran nead. From Cape Town, a line now in operation runs by way of Kimberley, Mafeking and Buluwayo to Victoria Falls, a distance of 1,600 miles. Construction is going on northward from Victoria Falls to Broken Hill Mine, a distance of 350 miles. A 450 mile line is projected beyond that point to the southern end of Lake Tanganvika.

It is approximately 3,000 miles between Victoria Falls and Khartum, those points being taken as the present northern and southern rail heads. About 1,600 miles of this gap is traversed by water routes, or can be made so. Of the 1,400 miles to be covered by rail, 800 miles lie between Victoria Falls and Lake Tanganyika. The remainder is represented by projected lines making connections between water wavs.

As at present planned, the route is at best exceedingly awkward, involving numerous transfers of passengers or freight from boat to train and from train to boat. But a matter of serious moment. Few will care to travel that way, and through freight will be very limited in quantity. The probability is that long before any direct Cape to Cairo line is completed, or even required, a different system of connection will be opened. This would involve the completion of an all rail connection between Cape Town and Lake Tanganyika. It is reasonable to expect the construction of that line at no very distant day. It is also probable that an early date will see the present Uganda line connected with the already constructed Nile line, bringing Cairo into direct communication with Lake Victoria Nyapza. A 200 mile line would connect Victoria Nyanza with Tanganyika, and a through route, not greatly out of direct line, be opened. This would involve construc tion on German territory, but inasmuch as Germany will probably build a German line to Victoria Nyanza, it is probable that she will also connect the two lakes. To build an all British route, England needs just a little slice from the eastern edge of

the Congo Free State. It may be twenty-five years before all or any of this is done, but the interesting and striking feature of it is that it is only twenty-five years since the late Henry M. Stanley made known to the world that vast area which now cannot rightly be designated as Darkest Africa, for we know as much about it as we know about the central part of South America and more than we

A Radical's Prediction.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Bryan had been nominated at St. Louis would there now be any "apathy" Democrate or Republicans either? Not a bit of it. We should now be in the midst of a red-hot campaign. Parker will get fewer votes than Bryan had in 1896, in spite of the increase in the voting population since then. Mark that

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.

Red Tape in the Schools. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Red tape is proper enough in its place, but the superabundance proper enough in its place, but the superabundance of it attached to the public school system of New

York is amazing. Listen to my plaint: To-day I went, like a good citizen, to enter, my daughter, past 5, in school. In addition to a vaccinstance of the whole. The caucuses pledged ation certificate, with which I was prepared and a strong majority of the delegates for Hearst, of which I don't complain, a certificate of birth but by the use of money, threats to have was required. That is a very strict new law, I was informed. She was denied admission because my inability to produce the birth certificate. As the child was born at a rural winter resort in Florida where the certificates are never thought of and where vital statistics are not kept, what was

Board of Health. Here the legal opinion was gratuitously dispensed that, although the birth cer-tificate was compulsory, they could offer me no relief. No one present was authorized to admintater an eath or take a deposition. So I became my own legal adviser, the old saw about the "fool for a client" notwithstanding, and have drafted an instrument containing all the facts in the case. My wife and I swore to it before a notary public-cos I shall again endeavor to have the child admitted

If refused again on technical or other grounds which would be less surprising than what I have already experienced, should I engage a lawyer to institute legal proceedings, or is my little daughter doomed to grow up in ignorance? The latter I am determined shall not be the case, even if the

It is possible that many thousand parents in New York are or will be caught by the same annoy ance before school opens; for who ever thinks of Now what do you think of that NEW YORK, Sept. 8. JAMES HENRY TURNER.

Financial Aspect of the Political Picnic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I hear a good deal about the money the rich people of New York spend on amusing themselves, but there are others, and they are not so rich. I was talking to a man on the street the other night who makes a husiness of going to the picnics induiged in by various po litical organizations of this town, usually under the administration of some ward politician or other, and often used as a boom for him. During the season he has been to four or five. The evening I was talking to him he had just got back from one. ere were 3,500 persons in attendance, all men and the price of a ticket was \$4, with no free tickets that is to say no ticket that somebody had not put up \$4 for, although it might not have been the holder of the same. That made a neat sum of \$14.-000 put up for one day's amusement, including

But \$4 is under the usual price. Five dollars But \$4 is under the usual price. Five dollars is the standard, and be had attended one at which there were 4,000 men at \$5 a head, or \$20,000 for the bunch, and others of less number. The biggest one, however, had 7,000 men present—the newspaper reports put it at 10,000—each one of whom held a ticket costing \$5, or \$35,000 for the bunch, for one day. Two meals were served, for the bunch, for one day. Two meals were served, for which the caterer, who furnished the picnic grounds and all accessories in addition, got \$1 each, or \$14,000 for his part of the picnic. Of course, the \$5 paid covers all expenses, and beer, whiskey and other drinks, with cigars, are free to ticket holders. But no champagne, unless some husky politician wants to put up a case just to show the bys what it tastes like to be a real millionaire. NEW YORK, Sept. 9.

Traffic Resumed on the Tam-o'-Shanter Route From the Glasgow Herald.

The "Auld Brig o' Ayr," made famous by Ayr's
most famous son, has been reopened for traffic

Some four months ago it was closed by order of the authorities because it was considered unsafe. A native of the town had left £10,000 for the purpose of keeping it in thorough repair, but the terms of the will were not sufficiently explicit, and the matter went into the law corts. Pending the settlement of the case the town council closed the bridge and set to work to make sure that it would not be still further destroyed by the floods and tides. On this they have spent £1,000, and now the old archer are supported strongly by wooden erections un derneath, capable of bearing the full weight of the bridge should the foundations give way, as they threaten to do. By and by, when the lawsuit is over, the work of making the foundations secure will be tackled, that is, if the £10,000 comes to the bridge as the testator intended. If it does not come, the money will have to be raised in some other way, for it would never do to let Ayr's principal attraction fall into ruins, and so deprive Burns of his credit as a prophet. He foretold for it a long.

A LESSON IN HISTORY.

Became a World Power a Century Ago. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Judge Parker's statement in his speech of acceptance that "our country became a world Power over a century ago" is of interest to all stude..ts of history. One naturally in-quires just when did this important event Was it as early as 1793, when France and Great Britain committed such extensive depredations on our commerce that American merchants, alarmed, began to withdraw from the ocean, so that to restore confidence the State Department was forced to issue its circular of Aug. 27, 1793, assuring traders that "due attention will be paid to any injuries they may suffer on the high seas or in foreign countries, contrary to the laws of nations or to existing treaties"? This circular was followed by a fresh series of captures by both nations, "acts" described by Senator Prentiss in the United States Senate, Jan. 18, 1835, as being "characterized by an enormity of violence and injustice of which there is

scarcely a parallel in history."

Against these acts our country, impotent without a navy, vainly protested. They were never denied by France, and reparation was not made until the Treaty of 1800, although until that time the outrages grew more and more frequent, and the United States, by a series of abortive missions, made fruitless endeavors to obtain satisfaction.

Was our entrance into the select circle of world Powers prior to September, 1795, when our Government made a treaty with the Algerian Government (a nest of pirates and blackmailers; to secure the release of some captive Americans and relief from piracy against our ships at an expense of about \$1,000,000, including presents, gratuities and bribes to Algerian officials ("Annals of Congress," Fourth Congress, second session,

Was it during the score of years succeeding, during which under that treaty this great world Power paid an annual triute to this cohort of robbers of \$21,600, and other incidental and contingent presents aggregating hundreds of thousands of dollars, but of the amount of which, as Jefferson's Secretary of State wrote in 1808, "no estimate can be

State wrote in 1808, "no estimate can be made"?

We must certainly have occupied an exalted position when two years later we obtained similar treaties with Tripoli and Tunis through degrading gratuities; and when in 1800 the Dey of Algiers insisted on the voyage of an American frigate—the George Washfon—from Algiers to Constantinople to carry his own presents and tribute to the Porte, whose vassal he was. This was done, and our man-of-war became an errand boy from a pirate to his master and suzerain the Unspeakable Turk.

Did our promotion occur in 1801, when the Bey of Tunis summarily demanded forty cannon, all 24-pounders, and 10,000 stands of arms from the United States of America, with the warning that peace depended upon compliance?

Or was it between 1801 and 1805, when our Government was repeatedly and openly insulted by Tripoli and Morocco, our ships plundered, our flagstaff shot down, our citizens carried captive?

plundered, our lagstatt shot down, our start sens carried captive?
Or later, in June, 1805, less than a century ago, when a treaty was made with Tripoli by which we paid \$60,000 as ransom for American which we paid \$60,000 as ransom for American citizens then in captivity, and it was not till 1815, mid the thunder of Decatur's guns, less than ninety years ago, that we finally ceased payment to Algiers of the despicable tribute money or blackmail, which payment it is likely meets with judicial approval as the page of history is scanned, for is it not the fact that during these years we were justly exultant as a recognized world Power, and not tributary in shame and humiliation to these marauders and malefactors of the Mediterranean to the vassals of the Turk?

As a close scholar and careful student of history, Judge Parker is, of course, familiar with the series of aggressions and injuries upon American commerce, and the impressment of American seamen, without color of right, at the hands of Great Britain, repeated year after year, which preceded and continued during the War of 1812, as well as with the series of military defeats we sustained in that war, and with the loss and destruction of our national Capitol and other buildings and their priceless records, and also with the Treaty of Ghent, which left unsettled the main questions at issue, and which was adopted by us only because our country was so thoroughly tired of the contest that it was ready for peace at almost any price.

The desperate financial and military condition of our affairs at the close of the war, in 1815, as set forth in "Winsor's Narrative and Critical History of America," Vol. VII., p. 405, can hardly have escaped the scholarily eye of our late Chief Judge. The naval victories which illumine the darkness of that war for us first broke down the contempt with which all Englishmen had been taught to regard American ships of war ("Winsor's History," Vol. VII., p. 322).

Yet, according to Judge Parker, our authoritative position in the family of powerful States had been established a decade earlier. It would be interesting to learn when and how this was demonstrated; to be advised of "what doings, what charms, what conjurations and what mig can citizens then in captivity, and it was not till 1815, mid the thunder of Decatur's guns

as to persuade our calmly judicial and dis-tinguished ex-Magistrate that for us the laws of nature were reversed; that in our case our infancy needed no development, and our childhood alone possessed the sovereignty

our infancy needed no development, and our childhood alone possessed the sovereignty of maturer years.

Judge Parker may see no difference between the African of 1801 that browbeat us for cannon and firearms and the African of a century later that surrendered Perdicaris upon our demand. Others can. He may see a similarity between Great Britain's attitude when she sneered at our puny navy and impressed our seamen, and her reply to the Venezuela message of 1897, when supported, as it justly was, by a united and resolute people: others can or fancy they can. The people of this country are carefully considering for their choice between two men, to one of whom it will be given to make or to aid in making history for this generation. Careful and just interpretation of past history may commend to them a candidate fully as much as just study and expounding of the law and Constitution; and careless and inaccurate statement or explanation of their past glories as it has been—may arouse in them distrust as to fitness to be their leader in making history of to-morrow.

New York, Sept. 8. NEW YORK, Sept. 9.

Marked Kansas-Nebraska Boundary.

From the Nebraska State Journal. An iron column marking the southeastern corner of Nebraska has been found after its location and even its existence had been for-gotten, by John Wright. The column was The column was set by surveyors about 1854 and its site is now overgrown with briers and weeds and was oversions only located after a diligent search. The position of the monument discloses that the Missouri River has changed its course almost three miles since the time the surveyors

three miles since the time the surveyors did the work.

Mr. Wright was sent out to locate it and by following the State line he finally found it. It is set in a rock base, which, though badly weathered, is still above ground. In raised letters on the south side of the column is the word Kansas, on the north side Nebraska, on the west 1854, on the east 48 degrees north latitude. While it was set about three miles from the river it is now only about forty yards away. It is about eight miles southeast of Rulo.

The field notes show that its weight is 800 pounds, and that it was carried across the river in a skiff by an old Indian who ran a ferry at that early day.

Production of Metals in the United States.

From the Min'ng Magazine.
In the year 1902 the total value of the metalliferous duct of the United States was \$642,258,584. Iron is easily first, the output being valued at \$372,775,000. Next in importance comes gold, with a production valued at \$50,000,000, closely followed by opper at \$76,563,954, this value being less than that of the preceding year, although the tonnage was greater. The value of silver produced in 1902 was \$29,415,000, of lead \$22,140,000, and of zinc \$14,625,598. The United States leads the world in the producthe of iron, copper and lead.

The United States now furnishes about 28 per cent. of the lead of the world and 26 per cent.

Over one-third of all the gold mined in the United States comes from the southern division of the Rocky Mountains, chiefly from Colorado, which produces more gold than any other State Alaska supplies about 10 per cent. of the total gold output of the United States.

spelter, besides a considerable amount of

How Senator Hoar Saved His Brother's Life

From Harper's Weekly. The sympathetic interest of the country in the illness of Senator Hoar recalls one of his own repartees about his cider brother. The Boston expers had announced the serious illness of Judge loar, and a group of his friends observing the Senator at breakfast in a club room hurried over for

"Oh, yes," replied the Senator, genially, "my away, and there was not a person to differ from him. He was lonely as one katydid without another to cry katydidn't. I came back to town, hurried out to see him, contradicted everything he said, and we had heated arguments. Now he is better: much better. He will soon be himself again." And

EARLY DAY HUNT IN OHIO. n the "Bag" Were 17 Welves, 21 Bears, Judge Parker's Idea That This Republic

300 Deer and a Few Fexes and Raccoons. From the Cleveland Leader. Doubtless the most successful hunt ever nducted in Ohio took place on Dec. 24, 1818, n Medina county. It is known in the annals as the "Great Hinckley Hunt," and it was certainly great from any point of view. Hinckley is the northeast township of Medina only about fifteen miles in the air line from Cleveland. In the time of the great hunt it was a heavily wooded district, and was especially well stocked with game. All of the settlers in and near the woods had guns

as effective as any of that day. Bears raided the pig pens at times, and wolves were a great obstacle to keeping sheep, Partly to stop these losses and facilitate farming, and in part, no doubt, for love of sport, the most elaborate preparations were made to clear the wild beasts out of the great forest in Hinckley township. Captains of companies were appointed by the committee in charge or chosen by common consent tised for many miles around. Men and boys from Cleveland joined in the "beat," and more distant towns were represented. After all the firearms within reach had been put in more or less reliable hands, weapons were improvised by mounting bayonets and butcher knives on poles and using axes and hatchers

for work at close quarters.

Many of the hunters reached the edge of the woods the night before the grand raid on the home of the wolves and bears, camping out for the night. At sunrise about 600 mer and boys were ready for action, and the signal to start was passed clear around the forest, some six miles square, in forty seconds. lines of advancing hunters, deployed like skirmishers in battle, made a great noise with horns, shells and voices, and they gradually penned the game in the woods closer and closer to the centre of the narrowing

The final slaughter at the centre of the forest was great. Most of the large animals surrounded were killed, and when the hunt ended, late in the afternoon, the "bag" was no less than seventeen wolves, twenty-one bears, 300 deer and a few foxes, raccoons and wild turkeys. Many of the hunters remained in the woods all night, camping by the scene of the final round up, and the occasion was one of much festivity. Only man was hurt by glancing buckshot, and he was not much injured.

MONTEZUMA'S HIDDEN TREASURE Traditions Preserved in Family Say Its Value Is \$80,000,000.

From the Mexican Herald. Whether the report of the discovery of the Incas' treasure at Chayaltaya, Bolivia, is true or not, it is certain that the conquistadoers did not get all the gold of the last Inca of Peru, nor all the gold and precious jewels of the Mexican monarch. The story is that the Incas' treasure, withheld from Pizarro and now discovered in Bolivia, is worth \$16,000,000, and that the Indians believe there is still much more hidden away. Pizarro received a great sum from the Inca whom he cruelly treated and then killed, but in so doing he missed a greater amount, which the Inca, hoping to save his life, promised

his tormentor. In this country one sometimes hears talk of a great golden sun and other treasure hidden secretly from the early Spaniards. One gentleman who has the blood of Montezuma in his veins, and in whose family the traditions of the times of the conquest have been preserved, has said that probably fully \$80,000,000 worth of treasure escaped the hands of Cortes and his followers. Where is this treasure hidden? Some have said that it was thrown into Lake Texcoco, and not many years back a company well provided with funds made extensive excavations in the Pedregal, near Coyoacan, on a spot ndicated by tradition. A series of sub-

terranean chambers was found, but no golden Both in Mexico and Peru gold was hidden away from the greedy conquistadores by the Indians, who cherished the hope of making a successful rising against their conquerors. That hope has long died away, though much of the hatred for the race of the conquistadores

emains in the breast of the aborigines. It is quite probable that some fine day nuch of Montezuma's hidden treasure may be found here by a lucky hit. Perhaps is is concealed in an idol cave in the southwestern part of the sierra surrounding this valley, Indians. Whence has come the gold that the Indians living in these mountains so close to the city have brought here and sold to their legal representative? There is a mystery in all this, and a greater mystery in the whereabouts of Montezuma's treasure, which remains untouched.

Descendants of Charter Oak.

From the Baltimore Sun. Growing in a large tub at the residence of James Knowlden, 703 Roland avenue, are three thriving "descendants" of the famous Charter Oak. These sturdy little oaks of such renowned "lineage" will be transplanted in separate tubs in the autumn. and if they continue to flourish Mr. Knowlden will present two of them to the city, one to planted in Druid Hill and the other in Patterson Park.

When in Hartford, Conn., two years ago, Mr. Knowlden secured eight acorns from the tree grown from a sprig of the Charter Oak, which stands on the spot where that most famous tree in American history spread its branches for hundreds of years. He planted all, but five failed to germinate. He watched with tender care the three oaks that came up, bestowing as much attention upon them as if they were delicate flowers, They are now about a foot high and give

promise of becoming strong trees. When the Charter Oak blew down, the citie zens of Hartford immediately planted sprig from it on the spot where it had stood. new tree thrived from the first, and now its branches shade a considerable area. On every Fourth of July the Hartford people, augmented by many patriotic citizens of nearby towns, gather at the tree and decos rate it with flags and bunting, after which the Declaration of Independence is read

beneath its ever spreading boughs. The Charter Oak itself was sawed up into umber. From this a frame for the Colonial Charter was made. The frame, with its h'storic document, now hangs in the Supreme Court chamber in the Capitol at Hartford, A chair was also made from the lumber, and this is occupied by the Lieutenant-Governor

of Connecticut in the Senate chamber Bovine Fire Alarm of a New England Towns

From the Grantle State Free Press.
Fire broke out in the rear of Trachler's restaurant. oss not over \$200, mostly from water. our citizens who has liberally used his tongue and pen in denunciation of the old "fog horn alarm, resulting in its removal from the present electric alarm, knew nothing of the general alarm being rung in until Mrs. Cobb's calf, which had in some way become loose, running up and down the atreets with a megaphone voice, gave one vocal blast with a B-r-r-r directly under Whit's wine dow, which brought him out of bed to see the crowds rushing by. Following the procession he heard the alarm ringing and subsequently heard the calf at his heels, but he declares he never would have heard it had it not been for the quadruped, and as the next precinct meeting will have an article in olish the electric system

and employ the aforesald vocalist. Might Repeal All He Knew

From the Clereland Plain Dealer.
Some time before the late George Vest became Senator of the United States he was one of a comm alon which was examining applicants for admission to the Missouri bar. A youthful aspirant had failed in several branches of the examination. "I regreto say," remarked Mr. Vest, "that you have falled to come up to the mark in the branches of law upon which we have examined you. But," he added in most kindly spirit, "we will question you further it you desire." "Well, sir," responded the aspirant, "I would suggest, if you please, that I be questioned on the statutes." At this Mr. Vest smiled sadly. "My dear young man," added he, "I do not doubt that you're up on the statutes: but I do doubt that you will succeed in the law. Suppose you should have the utmost familiarity with the statutes, what's to provent the Legislature from repealing all you know?"